

WAR PREPARATIONS

The Purchase of the Brazilian War Ships Confirmed.

WILL BE USEFUL ADDITIONS

To the United States Navy Either in War or Peace--They are Very Formidable Vessels and Very Speedy--Can Cross and Recross the Atlantic Without Coaling, Recruiting Branch of the Navy Being Kept Busy--Bids Opened for Armor Piercing Projectiles and 19,000,000 Rifle Ball Cartridges--Fortification Guns to be Mounted on Disappearing Carriages.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 14.—Conditions appear to be quieter on the surface at the navy department to-day, probably this was because Secretary Long, Captain Crowninshield, chief of the navigation bureau, Engineer-in-Chief Melville, and other leading bureau officials of the department, were called to the capitol during the forenoon to inform the appropriations committee of the needs of the naval service in the matter of legislation. In the various bureaus, however, there was a hum of industry and the work progressed as incessantly and steadily as for the past two weeks.

The recruiting branch of the navy department is naturally one of the biggest branches of the service just now. It is in the temporary command of Captain Hienphill during the absence in the south of Captain Hawley and he was busy to-day with representatives of the railroads engaged in arranging for terms for transportation of recruits to the sea-board and of sailors already in the service from one port to another made by the commission of new ships. A problem that confronts the recruiting office is to procure the necessary force of enlisted men for manning the two ships which have been purchased from Brazil, the Amazon and the Admiral Bruu. The officers of the navigation bureau are making all arrangements for the speediest possible delivery of the two ships on this side of the Atlantic. It probably will require about 500 men for each ship and the question is whether these men shall be hired abroad in England under special arrangements for the one trip or whether regular crews shall be sent out from the United States to bring them home. The first method is undoubtedly the quickest, but it will not be available in case there should be an open rupture between the completion of the two ships.

The two Brazilian vessels will be extremely useful additions to the United States navy. They are steel sheathed and coppered, with twin screws, and will be the first of the cruisers in our navy to embody that most useful feature of naval construction, sheathing, for which Chief Constructor Hiebhorn has worked earnestly for many years past. He finally succeeded in having some of the smaller gun boats constructed on this principle. The Amazon is rated at 3,200 tons displacement, with an indicated horsepower under natural draught of 7,500, which is calculated to develop twenty knots speed. Thus, while the ship is about the size of the Charleston, she is much faster. Her armament is also much more formidable, not so much in calibre, for the main battery is made up of six six-inch guns, but these guns, as well as the 4.7 inch guns are of what is known as fifty calibre length, giving them an unusual range and power. In addition to this they have ten six-pound quick firing guns, six one-pounders, four Maxim machine guns and two boat or field guns. The torpedo tubes are three in number. The coal capacity is 550 tons, giving the ship an effective steaming radius of 8,000 knots, a most valuable feature, inasmuch as it would enable the ship to cross and re-cross the Atlantic without coaling. Such a vessel used as a commerce destroyer would be vastly more effective than what appear to be more powerful crafts, because of its ability to get along on long cruises without touching in at neutral ports to coal and thus being exposed to capture.

The cruisers carry no armor in the ordinary sense, but their machinery is protected from the fire of guns by an arched steel deck just below the water line, varying in thickness from 1.2 to 3.5 inches. The battery has an unusual train, being arranged to fire three ahead and three astern of the principal guns.

It is now stated at the navy department that the Marblehead, which arrived at Tampa Saturday night, was ordered to that place simply to take on some stores for the North Atlantic squadron. The torpedo boat Foote arrived at Charleston yesterday, on her way to Key West, to join the Florida. The Fern sailed yesterday from Sagun. The Fern sailed yesterday from Sagun. The Fern sailed yesterday from Sagun.

The Ordnance department of the army has sent an invitation to all of the firms which have in the past proposed to build disappearing gun carriages, in answer to the department's advertisement, to come forward at this time and submit on their own behalf proposals for building such carriages. They are invited to state how many carriages they can undertake to make at one time and are enjoined especially to state the exact time to be consumed in making them. It is believed by the officials that the deliveries of such carriages could begin in from three to four months after the placing of orders, the difference in time depending upon whether or not the manufacturers have their plans already in hand and also upon the calibre of the gun to be mounted, whether ten or twelve inch. The plans of the fortification board which are being followed in the employment of these guns by the department contemplate the mounting of all the big rifles on disappearing carriages.

Although these are more complicated and difficult of manufacture than the ordinary carriage, it is said at the department that owing to the fact that the makers are now and have been for some time engaged in turning out this style of carriage, they probably can supply them in the immediate future

more quickly than the average carriage, and with emergency orders it is felt that the iron works can turn out from four to six or eight of these carriages per month. The Ordnance officers have discovered to their great gratification that it is possible to use the carriages of the old fifteen-inch Rodman guns to mount the eight and ten inch guns of modern manufacture. This is because the Rodman carriages were of particularly heavy construction for the guns they were designed to carry, so that with even the vastly increased power of modern ordnance the fifteen-inch Rodman carriage is still able to carry safely an eight or ten inch breech-loading rifle. Of course the expedient is only a temporary one, as the carriages are very slow in operation according to modern standards, but they would serve very well in an emergency.

From unofficial information received here there has been a satisfactory improvement in the health of both Admiral Sigsbee, who is commanding the North Atlantic squadron, and of Captain Sigbee, who commanded the Maine before the explosion which wrecked her. As a result of his stay in the Gulf of Mexico, especially in the vicinity of Dry Tortugas, Admiral Sigsbee contracted a case of malaria, which, however, disappeared after a few days stay at Key West. Mr. Sigbee is now at the latter place in constant communication with the admiral, and the latest reports from her indicate that her husband has entirely recovered his usual good health.

Captain Sigbee's illness was of hardly more than a day's duration and yielded promptly to treatment, and the latest advices received here by his family by the secretary of the navy show that he has entirely recovered.

The bureau of ordnance of the war department opened bids to-day for a large supply of armor piercing projectiles and for 12,000,000 rifle ball cartridges. The bidding brought together a number of the representatives of the large steel and ammunition companies, some of whom took occasion to give assurances that in the present emergency the government work would be given the preference over commercial orders. The bidders for steel projectiles, varying in size from the eight-inch steel capped shot to the 1,000 pound shot, were the B. A. Illingsworth company, the B. A. Illingsworth company, the Carpenter steel company and the Furth Sterling Company. The bids varied only slightly on the various classes of heavy shot, running from \$116 each for the eight inch shot to \$235 each for the 1,000 pounders. The B. A. Illingsworth company confined their bid to the eight-inch shot and shell, while the others submitted their bids for the entire order contemplated by the war department, viz: 150 eight-inch shot, capped, 149 eight-inch shell, 482 ten-inch shot, capped, 481 ten-inch shell, 1,241 twelve-inch deck piercing shell, weighing 500 pounds each, 935 twelve-inch shells, weighing 1,000 pounds each.

The bids of all the companies for the 800 and 1,000 pound shells were the same, namely, \$187 and \$225 each. Although the department intends to accept only one bid, or to divide the order between the bidders, it afforded satisfaction to the authorities to know that such large supplies could be obtained from so many sources on short notice. The Midvale company offered to begin deliveries in twenty-five days; the Furth Sterling Company at the rate of 101 per week after twenty-five days; the Carpenter company twenty-five per day after April 8 and the B. A. Illingsworth company in ninety days.

The bids for rifle cartridges were in two parts: 10,000,000 being standard metallic ball cartridges with brown powder, and 2,000,000 metallic cartridges with smokeless powder. There were three bidders, viz: The Union Metallic Cartridge Company; the United States Cartridge Company and the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. The bids were the same in each case, \$18 50 for the brown powder cartridge, and \$27 for the smokeless powder cartridge. One company offered to deliver 50,000 at once and all the others contemplated a delivery of 100,000 a day after a few days.

The bids for shot, shell, and cartridges will be brief and the awards made within the next few days, as the war department wishes the work to begin at once.

SITUATION AT HAVANA.

No Session of the Court of Inquiry Yesterday--New Arrangements for the Distribution of Relief Supplies--Discord Among Autonomists.

HAVANA, March 14.—The day was sultry and cloudy. During the morning there was no session of the United States naval court of inquiry into the loss of the battleship Maine, the members of the court sitting on the poop of the Mangrove discussing various matters in connection with their work.

Arrangements are in progress to discontinue a number of the relief stations in Havana, which are open only at certain hours, and to establish instead a large central station, which will be open for relief at all hours of the day, with four suburban stations. Lists have been secured of the names of the towns near Havana of the number of the inhabitants and of the destitution in each. These lists will be extended throughout Cuba, to embrace all the localities where suffering exists. A careful estimate, it is hoped, will be made of the total number to be provided for, so that the amount and variety of the daily rations can be fixed according to the money available.

It is believed that the long established hospitals and asylums of Havana can be made much use of if assistance is judiciously given to their regular managers. It is further hoped that by spending \$10,000, Las Casas, now the principal place here for the relief of the reconcentrados, can be made a model refuge, with new beds, good kitchens, etc.

Rumors are in circulation here to the effect that Italian warships are about to arrive at the port, and it is further reported that the United States government will send either the battleship Iowa or Indiana to this harbor, to stay two or three hours. No cause is assigned for the latter story nor can the report be confirmed officially.

One unidentified body was recovered to-day from the wreck of the Maine.

Important factions of the autonomists of Matanzas and Santa Clara, representing all races, have agreed not to take part in the general or local elections next month. In some political circles the opinion is expressed that this agreement is the result of discontent caused by the fact that the autonomist government has been unable to give employment to the excessive numbers of people who have been seeking positions in the government offices. The Marquis Garcia, the governor of Santa Clara, tried to induce these factions to promise that they would take part in

the elections, but he has been unable to change their resolution.

Captain General Blanco has ordered that the sum of \$30,000 be spent in reconstructing the Pando railroad bridge near Gibara, in the province of Santiago de Cuba. The bridge, which was destroyed by dynamite, is needed to establish a line of communication.

In the district of Vinales, province of Pinar del Rio, tobacco to the value of \$700,000, has already been gathered. The other large estates have not been harvested.

According to Spanish advices, a government force, protected by the gunboats Venadito and Galicia, operating between Portillo Niquero, Camarones, Viana and Cabo Cruz, on the southwestern coast of the province of Santiago de Cuba, has been engaged with an insurgent force at Del Toro Inlet. The Spaniards are reported to have lost three men killed and to have had twelve men wounded, while, it is added, they captured eleven prisoners and some arms and ammunition. The Spaniards have, it is announced, commenced military operations at La Sierra Maestra and on both sides of the river Cauta, in the province of Santiago de Cuba. General Bernal is in command of the troops operating in the direction of Balro and Cantillanos. Reinforcements to the number of 1,500 troops have arrived at Santiago de Cuba from Spain.

All for Cuban Sufferers.

HAVANA, March 14.—Louis Klopsch, of the New York Christian Herald, has given the correspondent a check for \$1,000 in American gold, for transmission to United States Consul Brice, at Matanzas, and another check for the same amount to be forwarded to United States Consul Barker, at Sagua la Grande. Both checks will be forwarded to their destination by messenger. Mr. Klopsch says he would prefer that the money be used for the relief of the "silent sufferers," otherwise those who are in great poverty but who are too proud to make their wants known. Finally Mr. Klopsch will give Consul General Lee \$1,000 for direct expenditure and \$2,500 for the relief fund.

Faithless Insurgent Leaders Killed.

HAVANA, March 14.—The military commander of Santa Clara reports that as the insurgent leaders Cayilo, Alvarez, Nunez and others were upon the point of surrendering to the Spaniards near La Esperanza, province of Santa Clara, they were surprised by the insurgents under Roberto Bermudez, and a collision occurred. Later on the farm of Luzo, a force of guerrillas found the naked bodies of Alvarez, Nunez and Aspienza, of the insurgent army, who had evidently been killed by the insurgents who discovered their intention of surrendering to the Spaniards. The bodies were buried at La Esperanza.

Barcroft and Helena Sail for Home.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Cablegrams received at the navy department to-day announce that the Barcroft sailed yesterday from Lisbon for Norfolk, and the Helena from Lisbon for Key West, to join the squadron. This leaves Admiral Howell at Lisbon with his flagship San Francisco as the sole representative of the United States navy in European waters.

Nucleus for "Flying Squadron."

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The big armored cruiser Brooklyn arrived at Ft. Monroe this morning, direct from La Guayra, Venezuela. She has made a fine run up, and it is expected, will await at Hampton Roads the arrival of the Minneapolis and Columbia, which are just fitting out at Philadelphia. This force will form an excellent nucleus for the projected "flying squadron" in case the department decides to form one.

Alarms the Emperors.

LONDON, March 15.—The Paris correspondent of the Times says: "According to information obtained from good sources, the Austrian emperor is making great efforts to induce the European powers to present to the United States the danger to Europe of their carrying any further their interference in Cuban affairs. "Emperor William is warmly seconding the efforts of Emperor Francis Joseph. The American government is aware of this situation."

SENATOR MASON

Receives a Challenge From a Spanish Editor to a Fight With Swords.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Senator Mason to-day received the challenge sent him by the editor of the Spanish illustrated paper, El Cardo. The document is printed and is signed by the editor, the Marquis de Alta Villa. The challenge is at sword point and is preceded by a short column of personal abuse, in which Mr. Mason is described as "an ignoble Yankee senator, who soils like a woman, and who has not the valor to fight like a man, and who would take a slap in the face without resenting it."

The American people are referred to as "a people who deal in pigs, and whose flag is the Almighty Dollar." The senator accepts the challenge in a joocular spirit. He says he will have to see the marquis before he decides whether he will accept, but that it scarcely accords with Spanish modesty for the challenging party to name the weapons as is done in this instance.

SENSATIONAL ENCOUNTER

In an Atlanta Hotel Between a Judge and an Editor.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 14.—The dining room of the Kimball hotel was the scene to-night of a sensational encounter between Judge John Berry, of the city court of Atlanta, and Orth Stein, the well known newspaper man, and at present editor of the Looking Glass, a weekly publication. The dining room was well filled and the affair created the greatest excitement, many ladies and gentlemen on seeing the blood smeared faces of one of the combatants and a pistol flashing in the hands of the other, became panic stricken. According to Stein, Judge Berry walked up to him and without a word struck him across the forehead with a bottle of catsup, cutting an ugly gash, and knocking Stein out of his chair onto the floor. Berry then kicked him several times in the face, making bad wounds. Stein drew his revolver, but Berry seized it and pummelled Stein with it, until he was nearly unconscious and his face was covered with blood. The waiters and some of the guests separated the men and removed them from the dining room.

Judge Berry's side of the affair differs somewhat from the statement made by Stein. The judge says he said to Stein, "How do you do?" Stein did not reply and Berry then struck him. The revolver, Judge Berry says, was drawn intact from Stein's pocket and in order to prevent him from using it, he, Berry, unbraced it. Berry was arrested and his case will be heard to-morrow morning. The direct cause to-day's trouble was an article to the last issue of Stein's paper.

THE CUBAN JUNTA

On Peace Propositions Said to Have Been Offered

BY THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

The Terms Were not at All Satisfactory. Will not Consider any Scheme Unless it is Based Upon the Absolute Independence of Cuba--Willing to Pay Spain an Indemnity of \$100,000,000 for the Island--If that is not Accepted the War will be Continued--Spanish Minister Says Senor Ceballos is not an Authorized Commissioner of his Government

NEW YORK, March 14.—Thomas Estrada Palma, of the Cuban revolutionary party in this city, said to-day: "The proposition for Cuban pacification, reported to have been offered by Senor Ceballos, was not satisfactory to the junta.

"We will not consider any proposition for a settlement of the war," said he, "unless it be based upon the absolute independence of Cuba. We are willing to pay Spain an indemnity of not more than one hundred million dollars. If this is not satisfactory to Spain we will continue the war. Our resources are sufficient to do this. I will not receive Senor Ceballos unless he wants to treat on the basis of absolute independence."

When Senor Palma was told that Spanish 4s were selling in the London market at 52 1/2 he replied: "I have recently sold some Cuban bonds at 60 per cent."

PHILADELPHIA, March 14.—Dr. John Guiteras, the representative of the Cuban junta in this city, in an open letter to-day discussed the published statements that there is a project on foot to settle the Cuban question on a basis of autonomy. "The plan," says Dr. Guiteras, "suggests for Cuba all the privileges now enjoyed by Canada. I cannot believe that such a plan is entertained by the United States government, and I feel that an appeal should be made to public opinion to pronounce itself against the consummation of such a sacrifice."

He holds that there are two reasons why the plan of forcing autonomy should not be considered, because it would not be right and because it would not be possible.

SPANISH MINISTER

Denies that Senor Ceballos is Acting as a Commissioner of Spain to Make Terms With the Cuban Insurgents.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The Spanish minister, Senor Polo y Bernabe, received a number of dispatches to-day from the minister of state at Madrid and from Captain General Blanco. Those from General Blanco were reassuring in tone and stated that the situation at Havana and throughout the island was quiet and satisfactory. The minister of state cabled saying in substance: "The uprising in the Philippines is so insignificant that it will be ended by the time you receive this."

Senor Polo did not have occasion to visit the state department to-day. At 11 o'clock he made his first formal call, by appointment, on the French ambassador, and at 12 o'clock on the British ambassador. Informal social exchanges had previously been made, but the calls to-day were in the nature of the formal meetings of the representatives of the two governments.

The minister asked that an emphatic denial be made in his name to the reports that Senor Juan Ceballos had been in Washington as a commissioner from the Spanish government to make overtures for terms of settlement with the Cuban insurgents.

"Senor Ceballos is not a commissioner of Spain," said the minister, "nor has he any authority, direct or indirectly, to speak for the Spanish government. The only person qualified to speak for Spain in the United States is her accredited minister. I wish to make the denial as broad and emphatic as possible."

It was explained by the minister that Senor Ceballos had recently been named by the autonomous cabinet of Cuba as an ally to him in framing the proposed commercial treaty between the United States and Cuba. This was in accordance with autonomous plan by which the Cubans themselves were given control of their tariff affairs. But in naming Senor Ceballos, the minister pointed out, he and his associates were to assist him as the plenipotentiary officer of Spain. Whether Mr. Ceballos, on his personal responsibility, made overtures has not been known at the legation. He did not call there, and it is said that anything he may have done was without that consultation or sanction which would give it the slightest status as the act of the Spanish government.

Senor Polo's attention was called to the reports from Spain as to the prospective sailing of the Spanish torpedo boat for Havana and to the significance which had been attached in this country to this movement. The minister said that the movement of torpedo craft had been long contemplated and even before he left Madrid the queen had bid good bye to the captain of the fleet. Their coming had no relation whatever, he declared, to recent conditions, as they were wanted for work along the Cuban coast. Some of them, he said, were designed for use in the Cauto river, while others being swift, could be used as dispatch boats between shore points in case land communication was interrupted.

The minister has received no intimation as to the findings of the Spanish naval commission which is investigating the Maine disaster. He says this commission is proceeding with the same formality and secrecy as the United States court of inquiry, and that no intimation of its findings will be justified until the formal report is presented to the Spanish government. Mr. Polo added that his personal belief, however, was that there is no doubt the Spanish commission will report that the Maine explosion was due to accident, and said he was convinced that this also would be the conclusion reached by the people in this country when all the facts in the matter were made known.

Barnato's Nephew Shot.

CAPE TOWN, March 14.—Mr. Woolf Joel, the trustee of the estate of the late Barney Barnato, the South African millionaire, was shot in his office this morning at Johannesburg, by a former soldier.

LONDON, March 14.—It is said in this city that Mr. Woolf Joel, the nephew of the late Barney Barnato, is dead, as the result of the shot.

WEST VIRGINIA

May Have One of the New War Vessels Named After Her.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. WASHINGTON, March 14.—One of the three new battleships is to be named the Maine, and Representative Dayton is strongly insisting with the secretary of the navy that one of the others shall be named the West Virginia. Mr. Dayton called attention to the fact that General Goff's congressional life had been spent as a member of the naval committee; that he had been secretary of the navy; that he (Dayton) is the fifth ranking member of the present committee; that Chairman Boutelle is to have the new Maine as his share of the honors; Mr. Hilton, of California, has the large navy yard at Mare Island; Mr. Bull, of Rhode Island, the Newport navy yard, and Mr. Foss, of Illinois, the battleship Illinois, now building; also that West Virginia cannot well have dry docks, naval stations, or navy yards, and that she is justly entitled, by reason of the patriotism of her people, to have a battleship named for her. The secretary made no promise, but was favorably impressed, and it is not improbable that one of the first class war vessels to be authorized will bear the name of West Virginia.

THE NAVAL COMMITTEE

Will Soon be Ready to Report on the Appropriations for that Department. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Public interest just now seems to center in the house committee on naval affairs, whose report on appropriations is yet incomplete. Daily meetings of the committee are held, that to-day being attended by the secretary of the navy, and the chiefs of the principal bureaus of his department, and this conference was the cause of great speculation.

Chairman Boutelle was not very communicative, but it is understood the presence of the department officials was to secure an increase in the engineer, medical and paymaster's corps, respectively, and that the details agreed upon were satisfactory.

The only question now to be settled by the committee before submitting its report is that of the number of dry docks, and the debate to-day was upon Mr. Dayton's motion to build four, one each at Boston, Algiers, League Island and Mare Island. The bill is likely to be reported Wednesday or Thursday.

West Virginia Matters.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Mr. Dayton has been suffering severely for two weeks from a very severe cold, and Saturday last had a trying experience with a dentist. He was at the session of the committee to-day, for two hours, but had to give up. He hopes to be all right in a few days.

Representative Dovenor to-day presented the petitions, respectively, of James E. Ward, W. A. Hann, Sanford Glass and numerous others, of New Cumberland, praying for more strict laws on immigration.

Mr. Dovenor to-day recommended the appointment of C. F. P. Smith as postmaster at Wick, Tyler county, W. Va.

Mr. Miller introduced a bill for the relief of John O. McGrew, of Putnam county, a claim for pension.

Elisina Shingleton, widow of Selbyville, W. Va., has received an award of pension, \$3 per month.

Capt. Charlie Elliott, of West Virginia, left here to-day for Richmond on official business.

Mr. F. O. Blue, of Philippi, Mr. Dayton's associate in the practice of law, has been here for several days on business and pleasure.

C. A. Sinsel, of Taylor county, is also in the city.

Postmaster Fleming Confirmed.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The senate to-day confirmed the nomination of A. H. Fleming to be postmaster at Fairmont, W. Va.

Died From His Injuries.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., March 14.—John A. Casler, head engineer of the Consolidated Light and Railway Company, died this evening from injuries received last Friday by colliding with a delivery wagon while riding a bicycle. He was 55 years old, and one of the best citizens of this city.

Lord Salisbury Ill.

LONDON, March 14.—Lord Salisbury is experiencing the lassitude and other effects of influenza, any attempt at work resulting in a febrile rise of temperature, but there are no serious symptoms. He is incapacitated from his duties.

Rumors that Baron Cromer, British agent and consul general in Egypt, will succeed him as foreign minister are revived.

Youthful Elopers.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., March 14.—Bessie Dawson, aged 13, and Edgar Jennewine, aged 18, eloped last night and started to Cumberland, Md., to be married. They were apprehended by their parents at Smithfield, Pa., and brought back to the parental roof.

Swift Sentence.

PADUCAH, Ky., March 14.—Will Tutt, a negro, was found guilty of murder at Mayfield to-day after the jury being out two days. He was sentenced to be hanged. The day of execution was fixed for to-morrow forenoon. Tutt murdered his wife last fall because she wanted to go to a barbecue. Two futile attempts were made to lynch him.

Gold Still Pouring In.

NEW YORK, March 14.—It is announced that J. and W. Seligman & Co. have ordered \$500,000 additional gold from Europe. Kidder, Peabody & Co., of Boston, will import \$500,000 in gold from England; the National City Bank of New York, \$365,000; Heidebach, Ickelheimer & Co., \$350,000, and Kessler & Co., \$500,000.

Death of Senator Thurston's Wife.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Consul General Lee has notified the state department of the death to-day at Sagua la Grande, of the wife of Senator Thurston, of Nebraska, on board the yacht Anita.

Movements of Steamships.

GIBRALTAR—Arrived 13th: Saale, New York.

ANTWERP—Arrived: Noordland, New York.

NEW YORK—Arrived: Mohawk, London; Speardam, Rotterdam.

Weather Forecast for To-Day.

For West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania, fair weather; light winds, becoming easterly.

For Ohio, fair and warmer; fresh southeasterly winds.

Local Temperature.

The temperature yesterday as observed by U. S. Signal Bureau, corner Market and Fourteenth streets, was as follows:

7 a. m.	.....	26	3 p. m.	.....	58
9 a. m.	.....	40	7 p. m.	.....	63
12 m.	.....	50	Weather—Clear.		

MAINE DISASTER.

A Washington Correspondent Claims President Knows

THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION

And That It Was External--The Board of Inquiry, He Says, Will Report This Week--President McKinley Will Demand From Spain an Indemnification of \$10,000,000--Spain, It Is Supposed, Will Ask That the Matter Be Left to an International Board of Arbitration, and It Is Presumed That This Country Will Comply With the Request--All of Which Is Mere Conjecture.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 14.—The Globe's Washington special says:

The President and his cabinet know, unofficially, the result of the Maine inquiry. They are prepared to act.

They have canvassed the course of events, so far as they can foresee them, and have formulated a policy to meet the emergency. Along its lines the administration expects to move—unless it is swept off its feet by a wave of popular dissatisfaction.

The Globe's special correspondent is able to present the forecast of events as viewed by the President and his cabinet. It can be outlined thus:

1.—The board of inquiry will report this week that the explosion was external.

2.—The President will immediately, through Minister Woodford, demand from Spain an indemnification of \$10,000,000.

3.—Spain is expected to reply, expressing her willingness to pay if she is responsible, but maintaining that her own investigation shows that the explosion was internal and accidental. She will, therefore, suggest reference to an international board of arbitration.

4.—In such an event the administration would be disposed to comply with the suggestion—unless there is an emene in Havana, or an irresistible demand for war sweeps through Congress.

5.—If Congress acquiesces in the suggestion, the attempt will be made to adjourn that body and leave the whole matter in the President's hands.

6.—It is expected that a large majority of congressmen will claim that such a matter of honor cannot be arbitrated. It is further expected that the leaders of both houses, including Senator Davis, of Minnesota, will favor arbitration.

FORTIFYING THE HOOK.

Activity at Sandy Hook--Will be Strongest in the World.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The 300 artillery men ordered from Fort Hamilton and Fort Wadsworth to Sandy Hook were transferred to the latter point to-day. Under the direction of army engineers hundreds of soldiers and workmen are busy mounting guns, building ramparts and laying other defenses at the Hook. Not since the civil war has such activity been seen there. A train of twenty-one cars each loaded with a twelve-inch steel mortar is lying on a siding near the fortifications. It arrived yesterday from the Watervliet arsenal.

The work of erecting mounts for the mortars is being rushed. Many mortars are already in place. They are in deep pits in batteries of sixteen each, and cannot be reached by an enemy's guns except by shell.

Dozens of eight, ten and twelve inch steel rifles are at the Hook ready for mounting. When the engineers are through the fortifications will be among the strongest in the world.

All women and children under sixteen years old have been ordered from the Hook. The wives of many of the workmen left yesterday.

Hundreds of masons, carpenters and other mechanics are working on the additional quarters needed for the artillery men. They are nearly completed.

MINERS STRIKE

Will Probably Occur Soon--Mine Workers' Defense Fund Defeated.

CLEVELAND, O., March 14.—Concerning the possibility of another great strike of coal miners, Thomas Young, manager of the M. A. Hanna Coal Company, extensive operators in Pennsylvania, is quoted as saying to-day:

"A strike involving about 20,000 miners, will probably soon be in full swing in Central Pennsylvania. The operators declare they will not pay the Chicago scale and the miners announce their intention to strike. There will be a tremendous rush for coal, with the opening of navigation on the lakes."